

A NEW SPECIES OF *AGRILUS* (COLEOPTERA:
BUPRESTIDAE) SIMILAR TO *AGRILUS OMECATLI*
OCCURRING ON SHRUBBY BLUE SALVIA
(*SALVIA BALLOTAEFLORE* BENTH.: LABIATAE)

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Agrilus salviaphilos*, collected from Shrubby Blue Salvia (*Salvia ballotaeflora* Benth.) is described from South Texas.

A new buprestid, *Agrilus salviaphilos*, is described. The species is similar to *Agrilus omevatli* Fisher in general appearance, but on comparison with the type female significant morphological differences were observed to justify establishment of a new species.

Agrilus salviaphilos Manley, **new species**
(Figures 1-2)

Holotype male. Robust, moderately elongate, dorsum dark brown, moderately shining with vague purplish reflection on elytra, pronotum with vague aeneous reflection, beneath similar in color to pronotum, but more shining. *HEAD* with the front broad, subequal in width at top and bottom anteriorly, with a deep median triangularly-shaped depression above middle, base of triangle at middle of frons with a slight longitudinal groove on the occiput, a second smaller depression on epistoma; sides straight; surface irregularly rugose, feebly granulose, and sparsely clothed with short, recumbent whitish pubescence, epistoma transverse, depressed between antennae, feebly, broadly arcuately emarginate in front. Antenna short, serrate from fifth joint, outer joints about as wide as long, broadly oblong and more acutely rounded ventrally than above. *PRONOTUM* slightly wider than long, base and apex about equal in width, and widest at apical third, sides arcuately rounded from apical angles to behind middle, then sinuate to posterior angles; when viewed laterally the marginal and submarginal carinae feebly sinuate, separated throughout their entire length; anterior margin feebly sinuate with a broadly rounded median lobe, slightly truncated; base transverse on each side, median lobe feebly produced and broadly rounded; disk strongly convex, feebly depressed near middle and at sides posteriorly, with small median depression near anterior margin, prehumeral carina very feebly indicated with a small knoll anterior to the prehumeral carina but behind the transverse mid line; surface finely irregularly rugose, finely punctuate between the rugae, sparsely clothed with short, recumbent, white hairs. *SCUTELLUM* not transversely carinate, but with the anterior margin strongly deflected. *ELYTRA* broadly constricted at middle, broadly expanded behind middle, then obliquely narrowed to the tips, which are each narrowly rounded, not distinctly dentate; surface broadly flattened along internal margins, densely, finely rugose, sparsely, uniformly clothed with short recumbent, white hairs, more dense in basal pits. *ABDOMEN* narrowly exposed above, strongly convex beneath, surface finely transversely rugose, rather densely, clothed with short, recumbent, white hairs, more dense on metasternal, epimeron, and lateral side of 1st abdominal segment. Prosternum coarsely rugose, uniformly clothed with recumbent, white hairs; prosternal lobe broadly, vaguely emarginate in front; prosternal process broad, sides parallel.

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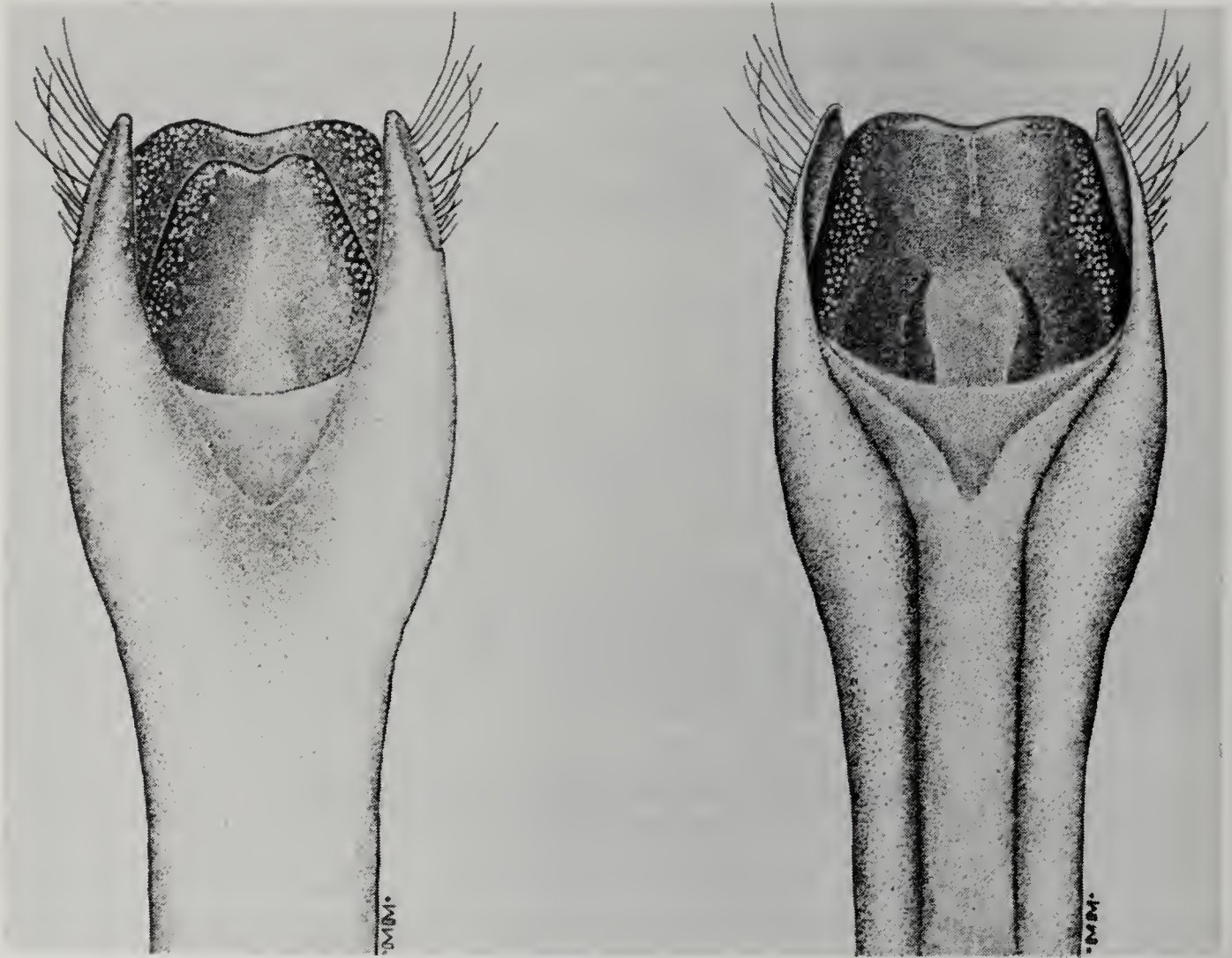


Fig. 1, Male genitalia of *Agrilus salviaphilos*, dorsal (left) and ventral (right) views.

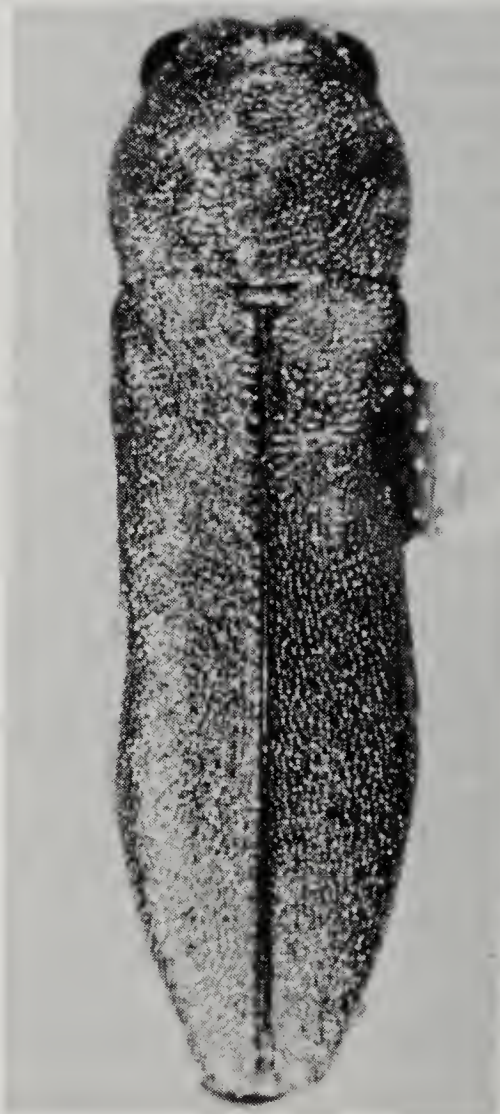


Fig. 2, Male of *Agrilus salviaphilos*.

TABLE 1. COMPARISON OF CHARACTERS BETWEEN *Agrilus omecatli* AND *A. salviaphilos*.

CHARACTER	<i>Agrilus omecatli</i>	<i>Agrilus salviaphilos</i>
Front of Head	Pit in front of head sulciform extending nearly to epistoma. Epistoma flat or slightly depressed and transverse between antenna.	Pit in front of head triangular, base resting near middle of frons. Epistoma with deep pit between antenna. Upper margin reflected.
Pronotum	Transverse, coarsely rugose on disk, ridges posteriorly gradually sloping with transverse imbricate striga, anterior edge steep, vertical. Front margin with lobe evenly broadly rounded, strongly produced. Lateral margins sharply defined from above.	Transverse rugosa on disk more rivoise, posterior and anterior slope subequal, vertical, lacking striga. Front margin with median lobe less strongly produced and broadly rounded. Lateral margins less sharply defined and not as obvious from above.
Scutellum	Anterior portion rectangular, lateral margins transverse; surface with reticulated ridges, spaces between ridges imbricate; width 25% greater than length	Anterior portion with lateral margins more rounded, surface without reticulated ridges, with distinct pits. Length and width subequal.
Elytra	Length 3.0 times the width at humeral angles (n = 1)	Length 2.7 to 2.8 times the width (X = 2.77). (n = 12)
Color	Dorsal surface uniformly brownish cupreous with a vague aeneous reflection	Dorsal surface slightly deeper brown, elytra usually with slight purplish reflection.

Posterior coxae with the posterior margin feebly sinuate and the exterior angle only slightly prolonged.

Allotype female. Similar to male. No significant differences were observed between males and females of this species.

Types: *Holotype male*: Texas: Frio County, 3 miles south of Moore, V-3-1976. Gary V. Manley, sweeping Shrubby Blue Salvia (*Salvia ballotaeflora* Benth.: Labiatae) (USNM). *Allotype female*: Collected V-6-1976 from same host and locality as type. (USNM). *Paratypes*: Twenty two specimens collected from Frio County, Texas between April 23 and May 6, 1976. All specimens were collected from Shrubby Blue Salvia. Paratypes deposited in the following collections; Texas A & M University, S. G. Wellso, G. H. Nelson, R. Westcott, and GVM.

This species keys in Fisher (1928) to *A. olentangyi* (pronotum with prehumeral carinae) or *A. imbellis* (pronotum without prehumeral carinae) but is readily separated by its much larger size and shape of the male genitalia. This species is very similar to *A. omecatli* Fisher but is separated by

characters presented in Table I. *A. omecatli* is known from only a unique female so male genitalia could not be compared.

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BOOK NOTICES

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